



City of New Bedford
Scott W. Lang, Mayor

City of New Bedford
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P R E S S R E L E A S E

Mayor Lang Commends Fishermen for Their Bravery *Basic Safety Training Critical to Survival*

New Bedford, Massachusetts- Today, Mayor Scott W. Lang met with the captain and crew of the fishing vessel Jacob Allen to commend them for their bravery during the sinking of their vessel on September 28th, 2007. The most telling piece of the crew's survival story was the critical role basic safety and survival training played in saving their lives. Members of the crew said that the "Basic Safety and Survival Training for Commercial Fisherman" program enabled them to respond to the crisis situation in a calm and effective manner.

Ines Goncalves-Drolet represented Congressman Barney Frank at the meeting in the mayor's office this afternoon and emphasized the importance of the training program as well as the Congressman's ongoing efforts to secure funding to continue the safety program. Mayor Lang presented each crew member with an official resolution to demonstrate the pride New Bedford has in its commercial fisherman and to convey the city's thanks that everyone made it home safely.

"Clearly, the safety and survival training course is of tremendous value. I am committed to working with Congressman Frank and our entire legislative delegation to secure funding needed to continue this program which protects the lives of our esteemed fisherman who make New Bedford the number one fishing port in the nation," said Mayor Lang.

The next "Basic Safety and Survival Training for Commercial Fishermen" will be held on Friday, October 19th, 2007 at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth School for Marine Science and Technology. Please contact Fran Abreu of New Directions at (508) 961-3029 for more information.

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